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## **Families and Michigan tourism would benefit with post-Labor Day school start**

**LANSING** – Michigan parents, students and tourism-related business owners would gain by starting schools after Labor Day under legislation approved by the Senate on Tuesday, said Sen. Michelle McManus, R-Leelanau.

House Bill 4803 would mandate a post Labor Day start, allowing families to take longer trips in August and during the holiday weekend without missing school.

“Tourism is a major economic industry in Northern Michigan and it is critical we provide this sector with as much help as we can to keep it thriving,” McManus said. “Beginning classes after Labor Day will generate much-needed revenue while allowing families to spend additional quality time together on vacation.”

Starting school after Labor Day would generate an estimated \$10 million more in tourism-related tax revenue for the state. The added tourism also would create an estimated 2,000 new jobs and between \$100 million and \$200 million in economic activity.

One recent poll found nearly two-thirds of Michigan voters supported having schools open after Labor Day, showing widespread public support for the change.

Under HB 4803, if a collective bargaining agreement conflicts with the provisions of the bill, the law would not apply until after the expiration date of the collective-bargaining agreement.

The bill now goes back to the House of Representatives for consideration of Senate changes.

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